

and compassion for his congregation. Rabbi Simckes came to the Hollis Hills Jewish Center from a pulpit in Massachusetts and has been an energetic community leader in Jewish philanthropy, Jewish education and pro-Israel advocacy. Holding a doctorate in Pastoral Counseling, with experience in psycho-therapy, Rabbi Simckes has been a source of counsel and comfort for hundreds of my constituents, sharing his great wisdom and boundless compassion.

Equally, Chana Simckes has won the hearts and respect of the Hollis Hills Jewish Center, and the larger Jewish community beyond, through her commitment and involvement in sustaining Jewish continuity and values. A refugee from Nazi Germany, Chana Simckes has embodied the American dream: graduating from Columbia University, succeeding as a professional in Jewish education, and rising to the leadership of numerous Jewish community organizations, all while raising a growing family.

Joseph and Chana Simckes have elevated and improved the lives of their community, providing those around them with guidance, education, support and leadership. Stalwart advocates of social action, tireless champions of the Jewish people and the values of the Torah, I am honored to share with this House their marvelous example, and to hold them up for the recognition they both so richly deserve.

REGARDING THE SMALL BUSINESS SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON EMPOWERMENT ZONES

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Empowerment Zones, and strongly encourage my colleagues to support this worthwhile program. Recently, the Small Business Subcommittee on Rural Enterprises, Business Opportunities and Special Small Business Problems, of which I am a member, held a hearing to discuss the benefits of Empowerment Zones and the need to authorize funding for Round II EZs.

The EZ and Enterprise Communities (EC) program, target federal grants to distressed urban and rural communities for social services and community redevelopment, and provide tax and regulatory relief intended to attract and retain businesses in these areas. The enacting legislation designated 104 communities as either EZs or ECs. As a part of this program, each urban and rural EZ receives \$100 million and \$40 million, respectively, in flexible Social Service Block Grant (SSBG) funds. In addition, qualifying EZ employers are entitled to a 20% credit on the first \$15,000 of wages paid to certain qualified zone employees.

The district I represent in Southern Illinois is home to the Southernmost Illinois Delta Empowerment Zone (SIDEZ). SIDEZ, is one of only eight rural empowerment zones in the United States, and provides a much needed economic boost to Southern Illinois. Currently, SIDEZ is working on community and economic development in seven areas. Those seven goals are, Infrastructure, Economic Development, Tourism Development, Stronger Unity/

Sense of Community, Life-long Learning and Education, Housing and Health Care.

The enactment of EZ/EC legislation brought about an innovative, 10-year program to reduce urban and rural poverty and distress. I have seen how effective and well utilized these programs have been and I urge my colleagues to support full funding of current and future Empowerment Zones.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER STONE "KIT" DOVE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kit Dove, an outstanding environmental activist of California's San Mateo County coast who passed away on April 20, 2000, and who will be honored in a public memorial service at Quarry Park in El Granada, California on June 17, 2000.

Mr. Dove was very active in politics since he first moved to the Coastside with his family in 1980. He served as a board member and President of the Granada Sanitary District in the 1980's, and more recently, he served on the San Mateo County Agricultural Advisory Committee. In 1986, he was a co-author of the successful San Mateo County Measure A, a growth control measure for the unincorporated areas of the Coastside. In 1994, he helped pass the Coastal Protection Initiative which closed certain loopholes in Measure A.

I had the honor of working closely with Kit to form the Midcoast Community Council in 1991 and I was always impressed with this passion and tireless dedication to the Coastside and environmental preservation. He was subsequently elected to serve on the first Midcoast Community Council and was chosen to be Chairman.

Kit Dove was not only active in politics, he was also active in getting others to participate in the public arena. Numerous Coastside environmentalists and elected officials have credited Kit with their own activism in politics, environmental issues and public participation in the community. His wisdom and ability to bring together diverse groups of individuals made him a much sought after advisor and a well respected member of the Coastside community.

Mr. Speaker, Kit Dove was a very kind, selfless man dedicated to his family and his community. Anyone who ever came in contact with him gained a greater appreciation for the environment. He lives on through his two children, through his devoted wife Mary and through all of us who were fortunate to have known him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a wonderful man who lived a life of purpose and to extend our deepest sympathy to Mary Freeman Dove and the entire Dove family.

IN HONOR OF LEONARD AND LUPE ORTIZ

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Leonard and Lupe Ortiz, whose devotion to

the people and culture of Ventura County, CA, in my district, will be recognized this weekend at the Interface Children Family Services' Tribute Dinner.

Leonard and Lupe Ortiz have lived in Ventura County their entire lives and are close personal friends. They raised four children here, three of which continue to live in Ventura County. In 1952, the Ortiz family launched Ortiz Trucking, which flourished. While building and running a successful business and raising and nurturing a fine family, Leonard and Lupe Ortiz also made time to dedicate themselves to their community.

Leonard Ortiz has served on the boards of Interface, the United Way, Easter Seals, and Community Memorial Hospital. He has been a member of the Sheriff's Posse, which is involved in search and rescue operations. He is now a member of the newly formed La Voz—Voice of Santa Paula. Its goal is to preserve the history of Santa Paula and promote its development.

Lupe Ortiz has served on the Fine Arts Committee of the Ventura County Museum of History and Art. She has also assisted the fundraising efforts of several charitable organizations, including Interface and Easter Seals.

Their tireless commitment to enrich the lives of their family and their neighbors deserves our deep appreciation.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a strong supporter of Interface Children Family Services for more than twenty years. The work of the organization and its volunteers has bettered the lives of countless families in my community. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Leonard and Lupe Ortiz for the honor they so richly deserve and thank them for decades of helping others.

SUPPORTING CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of increasing the Child Care Development block grant by \$417 million in order to meet the dire needs of our children and families.

How in the world do we expect single women to get a job and become self sufficient if affordable and adequate child care is not available?

Reliable and quality child care is necessary for the healthy development of our children and for parents' productivity at work.

I was in the California State Senate when the Welfare Reform Bill was signed into law. Then, I adamantly opposed the bill because I knew that while most women on Welfare want to work, they do not have affordable and accessible child care.

I was on the Conference Committee in the State Senate that negotiated the California Plan. Over and over again we heard testimony from women who pleaded with us to provide resources for child care so that they could go to work. While we directed additional resources for child care, today there are still over 200,000 families on the waiting list in California.

In many states, parents pay more than 10 percent of their income for child care. Women